

Subject: February 26, 2016

From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

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Los Angeles Council District 5

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UPCOMING EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS



As part of Councilmember Koretz's "Decade: Climate Safe (2016-2025)" initiative, please join us for a FREE* LA Green Living Workshop offered by LADWP and Sustainable Works beginning February 29.

These workshops will offer great resources and information on how you can be part of the solution and live more sustainably. [Click here](#) to view more details about the workshops being offered.

**workshop is FREE to LADWP customers*



Shopping within the City limits of Los Angeles not only supports local businesses, it also supports City services, its neighborhoods and the well-being of all Los Angeles residents. For every \$10 you spend on taxes - \$1 goes back to the General Fund! Whether shopping along

World Spay Day



February 23 was World Spay Day, the day when animal lovers all over the planet remind us that spay and neuter is one of the most important tools available to combat pet overpopulation and the various forms of abuse and cruelty that flow naturally from having too many homeless pets in the community.

The City of Los Angeles has been one of the country's leaders in prioritizing spay/neuter as a way to reduce euthanasia in our animal shelters and deal with the number of stray animals on local streets. Since the 1970s, the City has tried to increase spay/neuter with in-shelter clinics and subsidy vouchers.

In 2000, we instituted differential dog licensing to incentivize spay/neuter. In 2008 we approved one of the most comprehensive spay/neuter laws in the U.S. And all the while we've been subsidizing thousands of spay/neuter surgeries a year for pets in all parts of L.A. via contracting with mobile clinics run by dedicated organizations and compassionate veterinarians and having our own City veterinarians and private veterinarians help out as well.

Los Angeles ended our version of the debate over whether to require spay/neuter or simply to promote spay/neuter by doing both. And, lo and behold, the number of animals killed in our shelters has, over a couple of decades, declined from around 70,000 a year to about 10,000. In other words, spay/neuter works.

The City of Los Angeles has a lot of wonderful partners in the effort to reduce the number of homeless animals in L.A. On World Spay Day, three of them, The Amanda Foundation, the Lucy Pet Foundation and Spay4LA, had their mobile clinics parked next to City Hall to show off their contributions to the partnership.

During that day's City Council meeting, each of those organizations was represented in a World Spay Day presentation, along with the Department of Animal Services and the promoter of World Spay Day, the Humane Society of the United States. Actor Danny Trejo, who was there helping Spay4LA, also spoke about his commitment to helping

Melrose or grabbing some food in Encino, every dollar we spend within the city is an investment to the future of Los Angeles. Details [HERE](#).

Send us your news and events! If you or your community group have any upcoming events that you would like to see featured in our next newsletter or on my website, please e-mail me at paul.koretz@lacity.org.

Please feel free to send this newsletter along to your friends and neighbors and tell them to visit the CD 5 website at <http://cd5.lacity.org> to sign up for this newsletter.

L.A. loves animals. He noted that in his work he travels throughout the country and that, in his opinion, our city is doing better on behalf of animals than any other place he's been.



Happy New Year!



The Chinese American community and the City of Los Angeles celebrate the Chinese New Year annually at City Hall, with vibrant festivities to start a council meeting. This year's event, in honor of "The Year of the Monkey," took place the morning of February 11. Happiness, much health and fortune to everyone!



Amestoy Estates' New Tree



Amestoy Estates community leader, Janie Thompson.

A new tree was planted by the City of Los Angeles in Amestoy Estates on Magnolia Boulevard between Amestoy Avenue and Balboa Blvd. The 100 year old oak tree fell a few months ago and a new, California Native, protected Blue Oak Tree has been planted.

Grand Opening!



Congratulations to Panera Bread on the grand opening of its new location in Westwood Village. This location allows Panera to serve its delicious goodies in a warm and welcoming environment.

Naomi Klein

The celebrated Canadian author, filmmaker, social activist and environmentalist Naomi Klein recently visited Los Angeles City Hall and discussed various causes and concerns, chiefly including the need for swifter climate action, with Paul Koretz and some of his fellow Councilmembers. Here she is seen meeting with Councilmember Koretz.



Alan Fine, Rest In Peace

Los Angeles recently lost a tremendous civic and community leader when Alan Fine passed away, and so Councilmember Koretz adjourned a City Council meeting in his memory. Alan Fine's son, Howard, and daughter, Hillary, were at that City Hall ceremony.

Just days before Alan Fine's passing, Councilmember Koretz was privileged to join the Benedict Canyon Association in honoring Fine, who was too ill to attend but was said to be much moved by the BCA's thank-you salute in recognition of his magnificent public service.

For more than 45 years, Alan Fine was a stalwart member of the community of his adopted home in Benedict Canyon, serving both the Benedict Canyon Association and, more recently, the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council.

Shortly after moving to Benedict Canyon in the late 1960s with his wife, Barbara, and their then-infant son, Howard, he joined the Benedict Canyon Association, also known as the BCA, and used his expertise as an accountant in volunteering his service as treasurer. For the next 45 years, through the birth of his daughter, Hillary, and through numerous comings and goings at the BCA, Alan was there, making sure membership dues were processed and that funds were raised and available for all the association's important activities. He attended hundreds of meetings, and was also a stalwart participant whenever the association addressed development projects and city policies.

In the early 2000s, after the tragic early passing of Barbara, Alan broadened his service to the community by accepting the appointment as the first treasurer of the newly-formed Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council. His long years of service at the BCA made him the obvious choice. For the next 13 years as treasurer, he attended numerous city meetings and had to make sure everything was done by the book. While some neighborhood councils in the city had funding issues, the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council remained fiscally sound under Alan's sure hand.

Unfortunately, due to illness, Alan had to give up his duties as treasurer of both the BCA and the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council last year. But his tremendous leadership and his devotion to public service remained, and will continue to remain, sources of grand inspiration to the people and neighborhoods he assisted. He was never one to trumpet his own horn, preferring instead just to get things done quietly and effectively. And that's just what he did, year after year, decade after decade, but in so doing, he provided an extraordinary and exemplary benchmark of how to achieve accountability with the utmost integrity and reliability, for the sake of the community and its able representation.



First picture- Councilmember Koretz presenting certificate to Alan Fine's daughter and son, Hillary and Howard at the BCA Annual Meeting. Second picture- Chief of Staff, Joan Pelico, sharing her condolences to Hillary and Howard Fine.

African American Heritage Month

On February 2, a City Hall ceremony marked the formal start of African American Heritage Month in Los Angeles. As part of this opening event, which drew a large crowd of attendees, four-time Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Lionel Richie was presented with the Living Legend Award and California Court of Appeal Justice Audrey Collins, Cal State Dominguez Hills President Willie Hagan and California Board of Equalization Chairperson Jerome Horton received Hall of Fame Awards.

Mayor Garcetti, Council President Herb Wesson and many organizations and community leaders made this opening ceremony and events throughout the month possible, and Councilmember Koretz applauded their efforts and commitment. Councilmember Koretz also praised all the honorees, while giving a special salute to Jerome Horton, who has been a personal friend for many years, dating back to when both served in the State Assembly.

Councilmember Koretz talked of those times, and added that more recently, "Jerome, as a member and chair of the Board of Equalization, has taken those often intimidating tax codes, policies and data, and demystified and clarified them to make them easier for everyone to understand and utilize successfully and beneficially. He's been in the community throughout our region with incredible frequency, for he is so absolutely dedicated to making sure that countless working families and small businesses get a fair deal, and are better served and advantaged, and have more resources. Those are fundamental pluses of good governance, and Jerome is the

epitome of the kind of constituent-friendly leadership that takes government to the people so that everyone has the tools to survive and thrive. He is a magnificent protector and champion for the taxpayer, and he has very much helped even the playing field in a society that too often seems weighted for the top small percent. He's also been a hero on causes ranging from promoting cultural awareness and empowerment, to helping prevent at risk gang participation, and fighting for the improvement of quality health care for Californians."



Lionel Richie presented with the Living Legend Award at City Hall's South Lawn

Soul Train

As African American Heritage Month was nearing its end, former members of the classic, trend-setting music and dance TV show Soul Train were welcomed and honored in City Hall.



Community gardens

Grassroots groups often visit City Hall and drop in on City Council offices to describe their efforts and discuss issues and concerns. In this instance, community gardeners stopped by and talked with CD 5 Chief of Staff Joan Pelico.



Pick My Solar

At the "LA Cleantech Incubator" renewable energy event held on February 18th at the LaKretz Innovation Campus in

Downtown L.A., Councilmember Koretz honored Pick My Solar, an acclaimed company that has embodied and championed innovation, environmental wisdom and entrepreneurial savvy in order to help homeowners and a wide spectrum of consumers across the Los Angeles region.



Councilmember Koretz presented a certificate to Pick My Solar founder, Max Aram.

Legislative Updates

Our society has finally become more accepting and enlightened regarding our treatment of LGBT members of our armed services, but in the past, some of those military veterans were punished with less than honorary discharges, solely due to their sexual orientation. Congressional legislation entitled the Restore Honor to Service Members Act is currently under consideration. The bills in question -- H.R. 3068 (Pocan) and S. 1766 (Schatz) would help those veterans clear their military records, thereby allowing them to become eligible for all benefits and veterans' services to which they should be entitled. On February 23, the Los Angeles City Council unanimously approved a Los Angeles City Council resolution, authored by Councilmember Koretz, in support of the federal legislation.

Even while our nation and state have enjoyed a significant economic and sustained recovery, many people remain vulnerable to financial pain and suffering, and that can be particularly true of those who are aged, blind, and/or disabled. That's why Councilmember Koretz introduced a resolution, recently supported unanimously by the Council, in support of state legislation, AB 1584, which if approved will reinstate the cost-of-living adjustment beginning July 1, 2017 and increase the amount of benefits paid under the State Supplementary Payment for such persons.

The nation deserves a full Supreme Court

With the recent passing of United States Supreme Court Justice Antonio Scalia, the highest court in the land now has only eight members. That means that, until the now-vacant seat is filled, many crucial Court decisions could end up in a 4-4 tie -- a recipe for potential legal chaos and uncertainty. Some of the cases looming largest before the Supreme Court revolve around key legal questions about the environment, education and the workplace. That's why Councilmember Koretz and most Americans want the process of filling the seat to move forward and not be subject and held hostage to petty political delay.

Supreme Court appointments by a president of the United States deserve serious and judicious scrutiny from the United States Senate, which has the important "advise and consent" role and responsibility concerning such appointments.

However, in a historically unprecedented move, most Republicans in the United States Senate, as well as other members of that party's leadership, have rushed to declare that they will not even hold hearings, much less vote, on any person nominated by President Obama to fill that now vacant seat. All 11 Republican Senators who serve on the Senate Judiciary Committee have signed a letter pledging not to hold

hearings on any replacement for Scalia until the next president is inaugurated -- and for that matter, there's been no indication that they would be willing to hold hearings or vote on a Supreme Court nominee even after the next president is inaugurated, if that next president is a Democrat.

As the New York Times has pointed out, "the Senate has never taken more than 125 days to vote on a successor from the time of nomination; on average, a nominee has been confirmed, rejected or withdrawn within 25 days. When Justice Antonio Scalia died, 342 days remained in President Obama's term." The Times has also noted that "since 1900, the Senate has voted on eight Supreme Court nominees during an election year. Six were confirmed." Yet now, it seems that many senators won't even grant a nominee, no matter who it is, the courtesy of a meeting, hearing or vote, no matter the turmoil that such a delay may cause.

Many voices across the land, including editorial boards for newspapers small and large, believe it is essential that any nominee for that seat be given appropriate and timely consideration, and not be subjected to purely politicized delay. Council member Koretz agrees, which is why he has authored a City Council Resolution, seconded by Council President Herb Wesson, calling for the U.S. Senate to act, and not refuse to act, on a United States Supreme Court appointment. The Koretz Resolution is headed to a Council Committee and then the full Council for a vote.


Attention all ICO neighborhoods: The link below will provide you with the most up to date information on BMO/BHO Amendments.

<http://preservation.lacity.org/http%3A/preservation.lacity.org/neighborhoodconservation/updates>

Did you know that all 15 ICO neighborhoods will be receiving the City's newest zoning code? Click link below to view more details.

<http://recode.la/updates/news/public-forums-sneak-peek-new-zoning-code>

Join us for a free Tax Preparation Day (for eligible households) and Family Resource Fair at UCLA, Saturday February 27. Click on flyer below for more information.



JEROME E. HORTON
Chairman, California State Board of Equalization
and CALIFORNIA EDUCATIONAL SOLUTIONS




In Collaboration With

Ben Allen*
Senator, State of California, 24th District

Sheila Kuehl*
Supervisor, Los Angeles County, 3rd District

Jeffrey Prang*
Assessor, Los Angeles County

Paul Koretz*
Councilmember, City of Los Angeles, 5th District

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION and FAMILY RESOURCE FAIR

MEGA TAX DAY
Saturday, February 27, 2016
University of California, Los Angeles
Covel Commons Grand Horizon Ballroom
200 De Neve Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90095
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Free income tax preparation is available for households with incomes of \$54,000 or less. To schedule your tax preparation appointment, please call 1-866-910-9559 or sign up online at www.boe.ca.gov/vta

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*Only participating in this event as invited guests.
The locations are accessible to people with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call 1-888-847-9652




Additional tax preparation assistance is available by appointment:


January 27 – March 9, 2016
Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

March 28 – April 13, 2016
Monday & Friday 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Closed March 10 – 27, 2016

University of California, Los Angeles
Ackerman Union 4201A
308 Westwood Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90095

For Saturday schedule please visit www.vitaaclo.wikix.com/vitaaclo





JEFFREY PRANG
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSOR

Valuing People and Property

Free Business Seminar

HOW TO PREPARE AND FILE THE 2016 BUSINESS PROPERTY STATEMENT (FORM 571-L)





This presentation is for **Business Owners** who are required to file the annual Business Property Statement.

The presentation will last approximately 45 minutes, with a question and answer session to follow.

Who must file?

What is the Business Personal Property Tax?

How do you classify personal property and fixtures?

What are the legal requirements and rules?

What if I disagree with the value?

How to E-file

e-file online!

<https://efile.assessor.la.ca.gov/efile/main.jsp#>

LA CRESCENTA LIBRARY
2002 Forest Hill Blvd.,
La Crescenta, CA 91214
(714) 949-9223
12:00 PM, Tuesday, March 8, 2016

WINDROW PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
3457 Santa Olga Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90808
(562) 570-3116
12:00 PM, Wednesday, March 9, 2016

WILLIAMS SENIOR CENTER
2122 La Puente Rd.
Norwalk, CA 90650
(909) 939-6200
12:00 PM, Tuesday, March 15, 2016

NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE
18820 Balboa Blvd.
Sherman, CA 91322
(661) 933-6102
12:00 PM, Wednesday, March 16, 2016

LITTLE TOKYO BRANCH LIBRARY
208 S. Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 912-0629
12:00 PM, Wednesday, March 16, 2016

LAWDALE LIBRARY
2401 S. Buena Ave.
Lawndale, CA 90240
(310) 676-0177
12:00 PM, Thursday, March 17, 2016

SPACE IS LIMITED!

To RSVP,
please call us at:
213.974.8613
www.assessor.lacounty.gov
LAAssessor.eventbrite.com

PICO RIVERA LIBRARY
9001 Rhodes Ave.
Pico Rivera, CA 90650
(562) 942-0994
12:00 PM, Tuesday, March 22, 2016

WELSH HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY
62741 San Vicente Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90068
(310) 855-5440
12:00 PM, Tuesday, March 22, 2016

CULVER CITY VETERANS MEMORIAL COUNCIL (Bottle Room)
9117 Culver City Ave.
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 258-6015
12:00 PM, Thursday, March 24, 2016

OLD TOWN NEWHALL LIBRARY
24500 Main St.
Santa Clarita, CA 91321
(661) 254-7550
5:30 PM, Tuesday, March 29, 2016

LA Sanitation needs your assistance and is requesting your input by completing a confidential survey on the cleanliness of the City's streets, allies, and sidewalks. Click on the image below to complete survey.



Take the
CLEANSTREETSLA
survey

Your opinions matter!

This message was sent to lisa@mediadistrict.org by:

Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Koretz
200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7005

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